

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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SPEED LIMIT CHANGE HELPS FLOW OF TRAFFIC IN LEWIS COUNTY

On December 14th the speed limit on I-5 from milepost 72 to 82 in Lewis County was lowered to 60mph. This stretch of Interstate was lowered from the previous 70mph zone due to a large number of collisions within the short distance.

After the Washington Department of Transportation installed the new signs on the north and southbound sides the WSP sent out local Troopers along with two WSP Motorcycle Troopers to educate the commuters on the change. Immediately after the change the reactions were mixed, but most motorists now see the constant flow of traffic moving more steadily than before. Since December 14th, Troopers have contacted approximately 396 motorists for speed violations within the new speed zone and approximately 90% of those drivers were warned. A large percentage of those contacted stated they didn't notice the new signs and assumed it was still a 70mph zone.

The desired effects are now visible and traffic seems to be flowing smoothly, but the transition from education to enforcement on the few still causing problems is short coming.

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